

Egremont Conservation Commission meeting minutes of May 26, 2016. Town Hall, Egremont, MA 7:00 PM start time.

Commissioners present: Chairman Bill Tynan, Alina Hsu and Ted Rubsamen. Ben Barrett absent due to surgery.

Guests: Shep Evans, Marc Lavasseur from Foresight Engineering

Pre hearing discussion ensued of Karner Brook project: Alina Hsu is concerned about Karner brook draw down. 62 feet of bank disturbance clause removed in revised version of plans? MESA exempt? Apparently it is exempt, confirmed by Mark Stinson. But NHESP will have to weigh in for sure. Alina is concerned about accountability, who is the contact? There are so many layers of people involved, and should the unthinkable happen, to whom do we turn for resolution? Because the commission has not heard anything from NHESP, we cannot move forward.

Shep suggests that a monitor be hired, specifically, a wetlands specialist. The ECC can approve or deny an applicant. The cost to be borne by the applicant. DEP asked for reduced scope of work, and Foresight conceded. They pulled out of 2 or 3 resource areas in the revised plans.

The Town of Egremont highway department is the applicant. Foresight Engineering is their representative. An enforcement order would be levied upon the town, should something go wrong.

7:30 PM The hearing was opened for NOI file number 153-0208 entitled "Mt. Washington Road bridge replacement and related site work". The bridge is number E-08-009. Tim Hosier highway Superintendent, Foresight Engineering is the civil engineer. Marc Levasseur here to present: Bridge is presently one lane due to failure of lane. A 3 sided pre-cast concrete bridge is proposed. BVW has been delineated. Topics germane to the Commission are that the project falls in Flood Plain, ACEC, Lands under Water and River Front. Erosion controls will be installed. Tarps will catch debris during demo. Alina asked: Why did scope get reduced? Levasseur: Original plans were just too large, and were tightened up. Due to the significantly complex nature of this project, a site visit will be needed. Scheduled for June 3, 4 pm.

Alina asked of Foresight plan calls for "No adverse impact"? Is that accurate?

*BCS* ~~Well, by definition, yes.~~ Impact of the wetlands will be minimal.

Ted Rubsamen questioned many facets of the actual implementation and installation of the bridge, and how it is integrated into the existing abutments and wing walls. Underpinning? How does the bridge actually get installed? What about lands under bridge abutments? A plan will have to be submitted on exact installation. Risk management is goal. Amended plans can be submitted later. Disposal of debris? Off site? Too vague. We need clarification. We should also seriously consider having a monitor engaged, with scheduled site visits.

Alina corrected revised submission regarding 62 feet of bank; Strike out. Motion made to continue the hearing to June 12 at 8:15. Motion seconded, and passed unanimously.

Hearings scheduled for June 9: 7:30 Shemshack and 8:15 Karner brook bridge project.

Shep has brought in a 10 page summary of special conditions for us. Alina will amalgamate all versions into one final version. Thank you, Shep!

Meeting adjourned about 8:15PM.

Minutes generated from the recorded version by Ben Barrett. June 7, 2016.

  
Ben Barrett, Secretary for the Commission

